

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A convertible furniture assembly comprising:

a frame assembly;

an upper platform pivotally coupled to said frame assembly for supporting a bedding component, said upper platform being moveable between a raised position and a lowered position; and

a counterbalance member coupled to said upper platform, said counterbalance member being raised between a first position and a second position in response to said upper platform moving from said raised position to said lowered position.

2. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a guide assembly positioned between said frame assembly and said counterbalance member, said guide assembly operable to guide said counterbalance member between said first position and said second position.

3. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 2 wherein said guide assembly comprises:

a guide channel extending along one of said counterbalance member and said frame assembly; and

a guide pin extending from the other of said counterbalance member and said frame assembly, said guide pin being sized to be slidably received within said guide channel.

4. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 3 wherein said guide pin is removable from said guide channel.

5. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a lower platform;

a first hinge portion fixedly coupled to an underside of said upper platform; and

a second hinge portion fixedly coupled to said lower platform, said second hinge portion being pivotally coupled to said first hinge portion along an axis, said axis being offset from at least one of said upper platform and said lower platform so as to define a spacing distance between said upper platform and said lower platform.

6. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 5 wherein said space distance is sufficient to accommodate items positioned on top of said lower platform.

7. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 5 wherein at least one of said first hinge portion and said second hinge portion is generally L-shaped.

8. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 5, further comprising:

a self-standing support pivotally coupled between said frame assembly and said lower platform, said upper platform being pivotally coupled with said lower platform in parallelogram linkage geometry with said self-standing support and said frame assembly for maintaining a horizontal orientation of said lower platform throughout the raising and lowering of said upper platform.

9. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 5 wherein said lower platform is a table.

10. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1 wherein said counterbalance member is operable to provide an opposing force as said upper platform moves from said raised position to said lowered position.

11. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 10 wherein said opposing force is generated at least in part by gravity.

12. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a torsion system providing energy to aid in moving said upper platform between said lowered position and said raised position, said torsion system operably coupled between said frame assembly and said upper platform.

13. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 12 wherein said counterbalance member operable to provide energy to supplement said energy from said torsion system.

14. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1 wherein said counterbalance member is pivotally coupled to said upper platform.

15. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1 wherein said counterbalance member is a headboard.

16. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1 wherein said counterbalance member is a panel concealing an area behind said frame assembly.

17. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1 wherein said upper platform is a bed frame.

18. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a cabinet positioned adjacent said frame assembly.

19. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a cabinet formed integrally with said frame assembly.

20. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 19 wherein said cabinet comprises:

a table surface; and

a cutout formed in said frame assembly to permit access to said table surface.

21. A convertible furniture assembly comprising:

a base assembly;

an first platform pivotally coupled to said base assembly for supporting a bedding component, said first platform being moveable between a raised position and a lowered position;

a second platform;

a first hinge portion fixedly coupled to an underside of said first platform; and

a second hinge portion fixedly coupled to said second platform, said second hinge portion being pivotally coupled to said first hinge portion along an axis, said axis being offset from at least one of said first platform and said second platform so as to define a spacing distance between said first platform and said second platform.

22. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21, further comprising:

a counterbalance member coupled to said first platform, said counterbalance member being raised between a first position and a second position in response to said first platform moving from said raised position to said lowered position.

23. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 22, further comprising:

a guide assembly positioned between said base assembly and said counterbalance member, said guide assembly operable to guide said counterbalance member between said first position and said second position.

24. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 23 wherein said guide assembly comprises:

a guide channel extending along one of said counterbalance member and said base assembly; and

a guide pin extending from the other of said counterbalance member and said base assembly, said guide pin being sized to be slidably received within said guide channel.

25. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 24 wherein said guide pin is removable from said guide channel.

26. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21 wherein said counterbalance member is operable to provide an opposing force as said first platform moves from said raised position to said lowered position.

27. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 26 wherein said opposing force is generated at least in part by gravity.

28. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 26 wherein said counterbalance member is pivotally coupled to said first platform.

29. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 26 wherein said counterbalance member is a headboard.

30. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21 wherein said spacing distance is sufficient to accommodate items positioned on top of said second platform.

31. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21 wherein at least one of said first hinge portion and said second hinge portion is generally L-shaped.

32. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21, further comprising:

a self-standing support pivotally coupled between said base assembly and said second platform, said first platform being pivotally coupled with said second platform in parallelogram linkage geometry with said self-standing support and said base assembly for maintaining a horizontal orientation of said second platform throughout the raising and lowering of said first platform.



33. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21 wherein said second platform is a table.

34. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 21 wherein said first platform is a bed frame.

35. A convertible furniture assembly comprising:

a frame assembly;

an upper platform pivotally coupled to said frame assembly for supporting a bedding component, said upper platform being moveable between a raised position and a lowered position;

a counterbalance member pivotally coupled to said upper platform, said counterbalance member being raised between a first position and a second position in response to said upper platform moving from said raised position to said lowered position;

a lower platform;

a first hinge portion fixedly coupled to an underside of said upper platform; and

a second hinge portion fixedly coupled to said lower platform, said second hinge portion being pivotally coupled to said first hinge portion along an axis, said axis being offset from at least one of said upper platform and said lower platform so as to define a spacing distance between said upper platform and said lower platform.

36. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35, further comprising:

a guide assembly positioned between said frame assembly and said counterbalance member, said guide assembly operable to guide said counterbalance member between said first position and said second position.

37. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 36 wherein said guide assembly comprises:

a guide channel extending along one of said counterbalance member and said frame assembly; and

a guide pin extending from the other of said counterbalance member and said frame assembly, said guide pin being sized to be slidably received within said guide channel.

38. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 37 wherein said guide pin is removable from said guide channel.

39. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35 wherein said space distance is sufficient to accommodate items positioned on top of said lower platform.

40. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35 wherein at least one of said first hinge portion and said second hinge portion is generally L-shaped.

41. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35, further comprising:

a self-standing support pivotally coupled between said frame assembly and said lower platform, said upper platform being pivotally coupled with said lower platform in parallelogram linkage geometry with said self-standing support and said frame assembly for maintaining a horizontal orientation of said lower platform throughout the raising and lowering of said upper platform.

42. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35 wherein said counterbalance member is operable to provide an opposing force as said upper platform moves from said raised position to said lowered position.

43. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 42 wherein said opposing force is generated at least in part by gravity.

44. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 35, further comprising:

a torsion system providing energy to aid in moving said upper platform between said lowered position and said raised position, said torsion system operably coupled between said frame assembly and said upper platform.

45. The convertible furniture assembly according to Claim 44 wherein said counterbalance member operable to provide energy to supplement said energy from said torsion system.